



## ANACORTES EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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DEAN MAXWELL, MAYOR

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March 7, 2005

Mr. Jeff Koenigs, Director  
Department of Fish & Wildlife  
600 N. Capitol Way N.  
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

RE: Marine Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas within the City of Anacortes

Dear Mr. Koenigs:

Thank you for your February 14, 2005 letter on the above referenced subject. We appreciate your support for the local decision-making process and the ongoing support that we receive from your department.

We fully concur with your position on shoreline buffers.

As to the "specific measures the City intends to implement to protect (or restore) kelp and eelgrass beds, forage fish spawning areas, and shellfish areas during the time the City's SMP is being updated" we submit the City Planning Department's March 7, 2005 CAO report that specifically addresses this issue in Section 6.4. *Attachment 1*. You will note that in 6.4.8(d) we do include planting beds of riparian vegetation. Dr. Cheney's report is attached to this letter together with the City's Marine Restoration Plan. *Attachments 2 and 3*. Additionally, as you suggested we will keep the language that we had in our earlier draft of the CAO that identified commercial and recreational shellfish areas, kelp and eelgrass beds, and herring and smelt spawning areas as critical areas. We accept your position that this "is an appropriate measure that can be applied until a more thorough inventory and analysis can be conducted under the SMP update process."

Additionally, we are in process of adopting a specific protection measure for forage fish spawning areas. Please review Section 6.4.1(a) of Attachment 1 and the proposal itself (*Attachment 4*).

Finally, we wish to acknowledge and thank you for the ongoing support that your department has provided us for our baywide approach to marine resource management. The Port of Anacortes' approved eelgrass mitigation project is just one example of the benefits to both our economy and marine resources. We submit that this is an excellent example of what you refer to as "That kind of proactive planning [that] has the potential to produce better solutions than the case-by-case approach of a CAO."

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

CITY OF ANACORTES

H. Dean Maxwell, Mayor

**RECEIVED**

MAR 8 2005

WDFW  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

HDM:ll

cc: City Council  
Gordon White, WSDOE (with February 14, 2005 letter and attachments)  
Leonard Bauer, CTED (with February 14, 2005 letter and attachments)